

CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION  
PERSON/UNIT NOTIFIED

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

TOP SECRET  
Approved For Release 2004/10/28 : CIA-RDP80R01720R001100090027-8/0  
GROUP 1  
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**SECRET**  
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S E C R E T 171054Z AUG 72 STAFF

CITE SAIGON 53286

DIRECTOR.

685916

25X1

REFS: A. SAIGON 52325 (N 669871)

B. DIRECTOR 299430

1. TO CLARIFY CURRENT STATUS OF PHUNG HOANG.

STATION IS POUCHING COPY OF PAPER RECENTLY DONE BY

25X1

CORDS PHUNG HOANG OFFICE FOR [ ] IN MEANTIME

FOLL ARE COMMENTS ON REF B:

SUN: Phoenix

(A) RECENT PHUNG HOANG REORGANIZATION, BASED  
LARGELY ON MISSION APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS TO GVN,  
HAS PLACED MANAGEMENT OF PROGRAM UNDER NATIONAL  
POLICE, WHEREAS PREVIOUSLY IT WAS NOT REALLY MANAGED  
FROM NATIONAL LEVEL BY ANYONE.

(B) THERE IS AS MUCH, PERHAPS MORE, GVN EMPHASIS  
ON INTERAGENCY SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM NOW THAN THERE  
WAS PRIOR TO THE REORGANIZATION.

(C) OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH CEY NP OFFICIALS LEAD US  
TO BELIEVE THAT IN 1973 AFTER U.S. PHUNG HOANG ADVISORS

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PAGE 2 SAIGON 53286 S E C R E T

HAVE LEFT THE SEPARATE (PHUNG HOANG AND SPECIAL BRANCH) PROGRAMS DIRECTED AT THE SAME TARGET (VCI) WILL BE MERGED INTO A MORE UNIFIED EFFORT, PROBABLY UNDER THE SPECIAL BRANCH. BECAUSE OF THE MANY AND OBVIOUS UNCERTAINTIES FACING THE GVN, AND BECAUSE THEY NEED THE REST OF 1972 TO CARRY OUT FULLY THE RECENT PHUNG HOANG REORGANIZATION, WE ARE NOT PRESSING FOR A MERGER NOW. HOWEVER, WE ARE URGING THEM TO MOVE IN THIS DIRECTION.

2. WE BELIEVE THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT IN 1973 THE GVN WILL DROP THE NAME PHUNG HOANG. ACCORDING TO COL. B I N H, HE AND PRESIDENT T H I E U WERE WILLING TO DO SO WHEN THE SUBJECT CAME UP IN 72, BUT THE PRIME MINISTER STRONGLY OPPOSED ANY CHANGE. IN A RECENT MEETING WITH BINH, HOWEVER, HE TOLD A STATION OFFICER THAT JUST AS WITHIN TH NP THEY ARE USING THE LABEL "PROTECTION OF THE PEOPLE AGAINST TERRORISM (POPAT), HE THOUGHT A LITTLE LATER THE PHUNG HOANG COMMITTEES COULD BE CALLED POPAT COMMITTEES.

3. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ANYBODY COULD BE AGAINST POPAT. E2 IMPDET.

S E C R E T

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